

Message Text

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20

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 IO-14 DRC-01 /137 W

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P 150956Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6063

INFO USINT ALGIERS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TUNIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY

UNCLAS PARIS 1158

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, TS, LY

SUBJECT: MASMOUDI INTERVIEW

JANUARY 15 LE FIGARO CARRIES THE FOLLOWING TELEPHONIC
INTERVIEW WITH FORMER TUNISIAN FOREIGN MINISTER MASMOUDI:

Q. HAS BOURGUIBA CHANGED HIS MIND?

A. I HOPE FOR HIM, HIS PRESTIGE AND HIS SIGNATURE THAT
HE HAS NOT. WHEN HE RECEIVED ME THIS MORNING TO ASK FOR MY
RESIGNATION, I TOLD HIM THAT THE ESSENTIAL THING WAS TO HONOR
HIS COMMITMENTS.

Q. YOU ARE THE ARTISAN OF THIS FUSION WITH LIBYA...

A. THE CHOICE WAS BETWEEN LIBYA AND ALGERIA. THE PRESIDENT
CHOSE LIBYA FOR THIS PILOT UNION. WITH ALGERIA IT WOULD
HAVE BEEN THE SAME THING.

Q. WHEN WILL THE REFERENDUM TAKE PLACE?

A. I AM NO LONGER IN THE GOVERNMENT. BUT THIS MORNING
PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA HAS A TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH COL.
QADHAFI AND THE TWO CHIEFS OF STATE WERE AGREED ON JANUARY 18.

Q. WHAT WILL BECOME OF YOU?

A. AGAIN TODAY MR. BOURGUIBA OFFERED TO NAME ME HIS PERSONAL
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REPRESENTATIVE. I DECLINED THE OFFER. IT IS THE SECOND TIME

THAT I HAVE DONE SO, CONSIDERING THAT IT WOULD B DIFFICU T
FOR ME TO EXPRESS MY PERSONAL OPINIONS IN THAT POSITION.
THUS I REMAIN AN ACTIVE PARTISAN OF HAVING THE ENGAGEMENTS
UNDERTAKEN RESPECTED AND I AM SATISFIED WITH BEING ONE OF
THE FIRST CITIZENS OF THE NEW UNION.STONE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
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